

ROARSHOCK PAGE

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Hey Now! Hey Now! Iko Iko all day!
Roarshock Page wishes you a Happy
Mardi Gras, and also a reflective time for
fasting in these last weeks before spring. Very best
wishes of the Lunar New Year. Gung Hay Fat Choy.

SOMETIMES THE ROSES FADE

The mind
clatters away and clatters away
and clatters away and clatters
away

Sometimes the roses fade
and lose their sweet scent

On those occasions
the pounding power
in my heart
becomes overbearing

Transitory multidimensional awareness
ah yes, but it's all right
I understand that quite clearly

But not you
when the emotional now
becomes honesty spoken
or outspoken

All this wonder
chases me around
And you linked to it
somehow

Flying like an angel
when the rose is new
and it's fragrance
fills the space
not between us

But sinking
lost in a dark tunnel
when the smile is gone far away
and the rose wilts and fades

– D. A. Wilson

FIRE BIRD

From the fire's ashes
The Phoenix shall rise again.
Phoenix!
Life, Death and Rebirth.

Broken hearts
Around broken fires.
Were you once a Druid?
I've seen your eyes dark
In the fire light.

These trees cast weird shadows.
Have you seen the Shaman
Dancing, arms flying?
The flames lick about his waist.
Chanting, chanting, chanting.
I've seen your eyes dark
In the fire light.

The flame bird rises us
All at once alive.
That which dies can live again.

Oh! The stories I could tell
About countless deserts and reasents,
But my memories are clouded
There is a lock upon my mind
And shackles on my heart.

How I wish that I could burst them!
And rise up again like a Phoenix
All golden and red, bathed in flame.

The stars were different then
Beneath the Druid fire.
Where you there?
Some of that light
Seems to reflect from your eyes.
Could the Phoenix leap again
Out of the fire
Into the full bloom of memory?

– D. A. Wilson

YEAR OF THE BLACK HORSE

Shadowfax carried Gandalf across the plains of Rohan and to the Very Edge of Doom, what a close shave that was! So long ago at the close of the Third Age of Mythology. The moon is new and by ancient Chinese calculation, earth has entered the Year of the Black Horse. May he be swift and strong, and bear the Unveiled Power of Arnor to the desperate battle with the forces of Mordor and Orthanc. Be wary, for the Enemy is devious and wears many disguises, and the Enemy has no shame.

These times we're living in, they are real, and as dangerous as any the world has ever known. The world is ending all over again. Same as it ever was. At the New Year we can focus our imaginations on going forward around or through those obstacles, as dangerous and horrible as they are. The Enemy is absolutely ruthless and will kill us without remorse; imminently understandable to be creeped out and full of fear and loathing.

We must be brave. We must be strong. We must be smart.

We must organize ourselves. Solidarity. The League of Humanity. There are more of us than there are of them, and we must get organized. Fusion of collective creativity. The individual shines. We are brave and love liberty.

Once the ultimate victory of love is achieved, Shadowfax will lead the Mardi Gras Parade followed by all the beautiful colors of humanity. In masks reflective of the inner mirth of plants and animals. There will march the jugglers and clowns, singers and dancers, minstrels and lovers and assorted other real and imagined fools, along with elephants and great floats, a gryphon, a mock turtle, and other horses.

All along the parade route, the crowd will be festive and laugh and cheer for each Krewe as they pass by in bubbles and music, and as Fat Tuesday dissolves in fine indulged chaos, there will come a crackle of fireworks as all changes to gold and red and Ancient China marches to <<<bong>>> in a new year, amid exploding crackers and towering Immortals, small dragons darting through the drums and after all a great dragon bathed in fire. Also along the parade route will come the Great Black Horse.

Keep struggling and survive. Valentine's Day thought: the side-ally fun house ride rush, along with the sadness, and most especially the sweetness of romance is a whole lot of what it is to be human. Cherish love.

FEBRUARY ALMANAC

2/2		CANDLEMAS
		GROUNDHOG DAY
	1882	James Joyce born in Dublin, Ireland.
2/4		LAST QUARTER MOON
2/6	1945	Bob Marley was born.
2/7	1812	Charles Dickens was born in England.
2/8	293BCE	First sundial in Rome.
	1926	Neal Cassady was born.
2/10	1600	Giodorno Bruno burned at the stake.
2/11	1929	The State of Vatican City was granted independence by Benito Mussolini.
		NEW MOON
		CHINESE NEW YEAR
		Year of the Black Horse 4700
		MARDI GRAS
	2002	US DEA raided SF Bay Area medical marijuana clubs and made arrests.
2/14		VALENTINE'S DAY
2/19	1473	Astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus was born in Torun, Poland.
		FIRST QUARTER MOON
2/20		
2/21	1951	Vince Welnick was born.
	1965	Malcolm X was killed in New York City.
2/23	1991	In "Desert Storm," the Allied ground offensive began against Iraq.
2/25	1943	George Harrison was born.
2/26	1848	<i>The Communist Manifesto</i> by Marx and Engels was published.
		FULL SNOW MOON
2/27		
2/27	1807	Henry Wadsworth Longfellow was born in Portland, Maine.

D. A. Wilson's chapbook, *First Hours of a Rainy Day and Other Poems*, is now available for \$10.00.

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